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Rock and roll
Pumpkin rollers united at Haliburton's annual ColourFest on Sept. 28 in Head Lake Park. A total of 97 registered for the fun event. /TIM YANO Staff photographer

Resident challenges Dysart's deer feed ban

JAMES MATTHEWS
Staff Reporter

A Dysart resident feels he should be able to feed deer in his private property.

A group of Dysart property owners formed a coalition against feeding deer. The group in October 2023 presented council with a petition of 720 names in support of the bylaw.

Those who signed the petition are asking that a bylaw against feeding deer be a year-round ban, and that its coverage area be enlarged.

The group wanted deer feed vendors to have to display a map of the enlarged ban coverage area and to include information such as the consequences of bylaw infractions by feeding deer.

A Mallard Road resident has decided to challenge that bylaw after an interaction with Dysart bylaw officials in July and August.

Phillip Primavera appealed during council's Sept. 24 meeting an order to

see DYSART page 2

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Dysart man vows to continue to feed deer

from page 1

stop feeding deer.

He said he went to court after he received an order to stop feeding deer on his Mallard Road property. A lawyer told him the case wouldn't be pursued because it wasn't in the township's interest.

And that begged a question.

"If it's not in the township's interest, I ask why am I being charged an administrative penalty order to comply?" he said.

Hailey Cole, the municipal law enforcement supervisor, said the chance for the town to get a judgement in its favour was compromised by administrative challenges from township staff changes.

The odds of getting a conviction in court were slim, she said. So it wasn't in the municipality's interest.

"Which is why that charge was quashed," she said. "It was more of an administrative issue than an issue with the bylaw itself."

Then bylaw officials received a second complaint with photographic evidence. But no deer feed could be found when officers went to the property in late July.

Cole said a ticket couldn't be issued to the resident, but an order to cease feeding was made.

Primavera said he never received that order, so a second one was drawn up and delivered to his Mallard Road property. And no deer feed was found on the property during that second visit either, Cole said.

"So, Hailey, right now there is a charge pending," Mayor Murray Fearrey said.

"It is an order to comply," Cole said as bylaw enforcement staff have not found deer feed on Primavera's property. "We have received a photo."

Fearrey asked Primavera if he refused to comply with the order to stop feeding the wild animals.

But the property wasn't having any of that.

"I will continue to feed deer, yes," Primavera said. "On my private property, legally, yes."

"So I guess we're going to be at odds on this," Fearrey said, and added that Mallard Road is in the area in which feeding deer is prohibited.

The case was made in October that younger deer could lose their ability to forage and become accustomed to human contact if feeding them is allowed. Saliva and manure can also transmit giardia, commonly called beaver fever, and E. coli to people and pets. Deer ticks that may spread Lyme disease may be brought closer to people.

And then there's the damage deer wreak on planted and natural vegetation on private and public property. More deer in town draws hunting wolves and coyotes, and that compromised the safety of people and pets.

Other people would be able to feed deer if Primavera is permitted.

"That's my point," Fearrey said.

"Yes, if you have private property it's your private property, you should be allowed to do that," Primavera said.

"We either have one rule, or no rules," Fearrey said.

"I think you know the answer there," Primavera said.

"I know what you want. No rules," Fearrey said. "But, unfortunately, people have spoken and they want this bylaw."

Primavera said there is a petition against the bylaw being circulated through the township. That petition will be brought before township council at its next meeting.

"So where do we go with this order to comply?" Primavera said.

"If they come out and catch you feeding deer, you're going to be charged," Fearrey said. "And you'll be charged every day they catch you."

> ***"If it's not in the township's interest, I ask why am I being charged an administrative penalty order to comply?"***
>
> — Phillip Primavera, Dysart resident

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School board welcomes new student trustee

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board welcomed a new student to the fold.

Ruby Maw, a Grade 12 student at Huntsville High School, was sworn in as the district's new student trustee when the board and senior administration met Sept. 24.

Due to a highly-demanding athletic schedule, former student trustee Maiya Dyni, stepped down from the role earlier this month, which left an opportunity for a new student trustee to be elected.

Maw was voted in by the TLDSB G7 Student Senate during a by-election Sept. 18. She will work alongside student trustee Taliah McNelly to represent and advocate for TLDSB students.

She will be in this role for a one-year term and work closely with the G7 Student Senate.

The TLDSB G7 Student Senate is a group of students made up of one representative from each secondary school elected by their peers to help bridge communication between students and bring student issues to the Board of Trustees.

"This role means an opportunity to grow my knowledge in school leadership, while giving me the ability to introduce the voice of my peers at a Board level and inflict change within my school community," said Maw.

"I hope that, despite my shortened term, I can help make students feel accepted and included in their time at school."

Colleen Wilcox, the board's chairperson, said student trustees are a vital component to the school board.

"They provide valuable insight and knowledge related to the student body as a whole," Wilcox said. "They also ask relevant questions at board meetings to ensure students are at the centre of all decisions.

"We look forward to working with Ruby in her new role."

Grade 12 student Ruby Maw from Huntsville High School is the new student trustee for TLDSB. /Submitted

Students from Stuart Baker and JDH joined together to warm-up prior to the run.

Running for Terry

Grade 6 students from J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School smile together before the Terry Fox run kicked off on Sept. 27 in Haliburton. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

Dysart rescinds dog's muzzle order

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

An Amik Trail dog owner has appealed a Dysart order that his dog be muzzled after a pair of alleged attacks on other dogs.

Chris Iles, the owner of the dog responsible for the alleged attack, asked that township council lift the muzzle order.

Council agreed.

Hailey Cole, municipal law enforcement supervisor, told township council Sept. 24 that Dysart's Bylaw Enforcement Department received two complaints about a dog known as Copper.

The complainant alleged that they were walking their dog on Aug. 3 when a dog called Copper approached and attacked their dog.

"The dog is known for following people and their pets, often bothering other dogs," the complainant said in a written complaint to the municipality.

It's alleged that Copper previously attacked another dog in June and caused a puncture wound that also drew blood.

"When Copper approached this time, it was aggressive and attacked my dog, leaving a puncture wound," the complaint reads. "A formal request is being made for an order under the bylaw to confine both dogs, with Copper only allowed off property when muzzled."

Cole said the township issued its muzzle order as a result of a dangerous animal declaration and photographic evidence of the alleged bite wounds by Copper.

Chris Iles, Copper's owner, said he went to the neighbour of the dog attacked in June and claimed in his appeal to township council that those other owners took responsibility for the attack.

"I went out and I addressed it with the neighbours," Iles said. "They were very apologetic. Took full responsibility for the incident."

He said he's made some "adjustments" with Copper to ensure future incidents won't happen. Copper is now on a cable lead with a chain attached when outside and also wears a correction collar that allows Iles more control over the animal.

"And anytime that she's off the property walking around the neighbourhood, she's on a belted leash that goes around my hips to her," Iles said.

Regarding the August incident, he said information about the alleged attack was never brought to him.

"It's not something I was aware of," he said. "Copper had an incident with one particular dog (in June). There's lots of other dogs in the neighbourhood that they play together with. When speaking with the neighbours (in June), they were quite surprised to hear about what had happened because they had deemed Copper to be a very sweet dog."

The initial incident in June, which happened when the bitten dog wandered into Copper's space on Iles' property, likely led to the August incident, he said.

"That is kind of what caused all this," he said. "And, once again, those people took full responsibility for that. I think this is an isolated incident with one dog."

Despite that, Iles said Copper is always on a cable lead now, regardless of whether he's outside with the dog.

He asked that Dysart council reconsider the muzzle demand as Copper hasn't shown a pattern of aggression.

"It's just this one incident with this one dog," he said. "Like I said, the other neighbours (from the June incident) are very happy to have then playing together and very excited to see her."

Copper didn't show aggression when municipal bylaw officials went on the property to serve the muzzle order, he said.

"She just stood at the bottom of the stairs wagging her tail, hoping to get a pat," Iles said.

"Sounds like you've done everything you can to mediate it," Mayor Murray Fearrey said.

"I don't want the neighbours feeling uncomfortable in that area," Iles said.

"It's pretty natural for a dog to protect its property when another dog (approaches)," Fearrey said. "That's natural."

Young children live at Iles' property as well, he said.

"It's a motherly instinct as well, I think," Iles said. "But that's why she's locked up now. It's not fair to have her scaring the neighbours. This particular neighbour. That's been taken care of so they won't have to face that again."

He said Copper weighs about 30 pounds.

"She's an ankle-biter then," Fearrey said. "Doesn't sound like it's a maneater or anything."

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Razzamataz rallies for accessible theatre

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

While summer winds down and the promise of fall is on the horizon, Razzamataz Kids' Shows are just getting started.

The volunteer-led non-profit has been rooted in Haliburton County for over forty years, and with the exception of a brief hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization has provided entertainment to kids and parents alike for decades.

"Each year we bring high-quality, affordable and culturally diverse performances to the county," said Nicole Stewart, the chair of the committee. "From dance to music, and circus to puppets, there is something for everyone."

Razzamataz is affiliated with Ontario Presents, which is a provincial group that brings together other theatre organizations across the province, and is able to attract high quality performers to rural communities. "Each year, we meet with Ontario Presents and northern groups to select some of the best national and international performers to present," said Stewart. "Our participation in this group was integral to selecting and enticing this year›s amazing lineup of performers."

On top of this collaboration, Stewart trends a series of children's theatre festivals across the province, including the Ottawa Children's Festival, Toronto's Buskerfest, and the Almonte Puppet Festival. Here, she takes the time to scout and recruit potential performers for the upcoming Razzamataz season. "My attendance at these festivals helps with making show suggestions to the Ontario Presents group," she said. "Next year I hope to attend the Vancouver International Children's Festival to find more great shows to bring to the County in future seasons."

Stewart noted that their shows are funded by the Government of Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the Ontario Arts Council.

In September, Razzamatz presented *Bavela* by Stick and Bow, which was a heartwarming animated story accompanied by marimba and cello music. Coming up in November, they have secured Bboyizm, an award-winning breakdancing troupe with a show and workshop. In the new year, starting in February, the group is presenting Jamie Adkins, a one-man circus comedy show. For the final show in May, they will be hosting Kattam and His Tam Tams, performing live world music and a djembe drum workshop.

The primary mandate for Razzamataz is to bring enjoyable, high quality shows for everyone in the community, despite any financial barriers. That's why, this season they have launched a new initiative to make sure everyone is included in the performances. "Each year we will bring a show to a different school in the county, as part of our goal to make live theatre more accessible to kids," said Stewart. "This year's show is called the *Evolution of B-boying* by Bboyizm from Quebec. The show will present the history of b-boying and b-girling over the last three decades featuring breakdancing, street culture and a real live dance battle."

The initiative will include a public show and workshop on Nov. 3 at the High School Gym, followed by a free school show on Nov. 4. For tickets to the show and for more information, visit www.razzamataz.ca.

Stewart noted that there was great community support when it came to launching this idea; particularly from the Haliburton Arts Council, the Kennisis Lake Cottage Association, and Canoe FM. "Right now we are participating in a program through Artsvest Ontario that will match any funds we receive until Nov. 22," said Stewart. "If you are an individual or business who would like to sponsor a school show, please reach out to us at info@razzamataz.ca. We are offering several sponsorship benefits and would love to hear from you."

Friendly fans
Participants in the annual cross country meet cheer on their classmates as they cross the finish line on Sept. 24. Students from schools across the district met at the Stuart Baker and JDH field to compete, with top runners headed to Lindsay. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

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Dysart waits to address concerns about road

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

Wonderland Road residents say it's a sad state of affairs when they have to beg Dysart council to address concerns about their road.

They're still waiting for Dysart council to attend to their concerns about dust from the thoroughfare.

The issue first came to council when Wonderland Road residents delivered a petition during council's May 28 meeting. About 70 per cent of residents have signed a petition to lobby township council to attend to the needs of the thoroughfare.

The residents had enough of the dust and debris along the side of the road and they asked that the township attend to it.

Wonderland Road residents outlined three requests of council.

They asked to have municipal staff redo the road with material suitable to create a smooth and dust-free surface. They wanted the township to use an environmentally safe dust inhibitor until the road can be resurfaced. They're concerned about the hazards to health and property created by excessive dust in dry weather.

And they requested that a pile of gravel and garbage be removed from the entrance to Autumn Lane.

The issue was broached at township council's Sept. 24 meeting.

"We are aware that the mayor and council have many pressing issues to deal with," Jack Sinclair wrote in an email to council. "However, it is coming up to four months that we have been without a clear answer as to the disposition of this road problem.

"It is a sad state of affairs when one must beg for action on an obviously reasonable, resolvable situation."

Mayor Murray Fearrey said he did respond to Sinclair's previous correspondence. The mayor informed the resident that he thought it was council's opinion the municipality wasn't planning on doing anything with Wonderland Road this year.

"First of all, we wouldn't get it done because of the weather and scheduling," Fearrey said. "And, secondly, there just isn't money and the will to do it."

Indeed, Fearrey said back in May that pavement costs as much as five times more now than it recently cost. Many municipalities have experienced steep cost increases for their infrastructure needs since the COVID-19 pandemic shutdowns and alleged supply shortages for certain materials.

"The aggregate that was used there is the aggregate that we use in our program," said Rob Camelon, the public works director said. "So it was approved through the 2023 budget.

"And, as I've said before, if we want to go to a pricier, more premium aggregate we're going to have a reduced scope of work and a higher unit price."

He said that's a change that needs to be discussed before work starts to ink the 2025 municipal operating and capital budgets.

"I drove it and I didn't think it was that terrible," Fearrey said. "Maybe I missed something."

Councillor Pat Casey said he's driven the road, too, and didn't think it was in poor condition compared to some other thoroughfares in the community. He said council will consider what will be used to surface the road the next time it's due to be paved.

"It sounds rough when you're driving over it," Casey said. "It's not ideal. It isn't fully paved."

"Certainly, it's not full of potholes," Fearrey said. "It's just little stones."

Dysart residents question STR bylaw's adherence to zoning rules

JAMES MATTHEWS

Staff Reporter

Some Dysart residents believe the proposed bylaw to regulate short-term rentals in the township and Haliburton County lacks solid footing.

The short-term rental (STR) bylaw will come into effect throughout the county on Oct. 1. The bylaw will require property owners to obtain a licence from their respective municipality in order to rent their properties as STRs. And there are certain conditions with a licence to which those property owners have to adhere.

Half of the money raised through the licences will be kicked up to a corporate entity at the county level to be used for tourism-related promotion and initiatives.

Christine and Jim Legge outlined some of their concerns with the proposed bylaw in a letter to the township that was taken as information during council's Sept. 24 meeting.

In their letter, they said the STR regulations is proposing to license a use that is not listed as a permitted use in Dysart's zoning bylaw. There have been no Official Plan and zoning bylaw amendments or public consultation to permit STRs in Dysart, they said.

Past legal cases have determined that if a use is not listed as permitted in a zoning bylaw then it is not permitted within the township.

The proposed STR bylaw requires only the property to comply and does not require that the use of the property conform to the permitted uses in the zoning bylaw.

"Comply and conform have very different meanings under the Dysart zoning bylaw," they said.

Further, they say that if a property complies with the zoning provisions, it should only be used for the uses that are listed as permitted uses in that zone.

"STRs are not defined or listed as a permitted use in any Dysart zone," they said.

A bed and breakfast business and a motel which provides temporary accommodation to travellers are defined and listed as permitted uses in specific zones. STRs are not defined or listed as a permitted use in any Dysart zone.

The proposed STR bylaw may require licensing and permitting for the growing number of large hotel-like STR businesses operating in residential zones where the use does not conform and is not a permitted use.

"This could affect a large area in the County of Haliburton now zoned residential, neighbouring properties, and their values," they said.

The STR bylaw also includes substantial changes to defined terms that are already defined in the Dysart's zoning bylaw. A dwelling in the zoning bylaw is referred to as a home or residence, while a dwelling in the STR bylaw is simply a residential building.

A guest room in the township's zoning bylaw is a room in a hotel, lodge, resort, or bed and breakfast establishment which contains no kitchen or cooking facilities. A guest room in a STR is now a room in a dwelling used for accommodation for renting over a short term.

"These changes to defined terms could significantly change land uses, particularly in waterfront residential areas," they said.

They believe there has been a lack of transparency and public involvement in the passing of the STR regulations which could have significant implications on land uses and neighbouring residential properties and their values.

Hailey Cole, the municipal bylaw enforcement supervisor, said staff have gone over the STR requirements "several times."

"Frankly, there's been all kinds of legal opinions," Mayor Murray Fearrey said. "The county has had numerous legal opinions on the zoning bylaw."

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Full circle

FULL CIRCLE moments.

They happen often, if you're lucky. Those moments when you see your kids playing with the same toy that once brought you so much joy. Trying out a recipe that your grandmother scribbled down in her flour-stained cookbook. Listening to a song that brings back snapshots with so much clarity.

For me, sitting down at this desk and writing an editorial for the *Haliburton County Echo* is my greatest full circle to date.

I am going to use this column as an opportunity to reintroduce myself. Growing up in the Haliburton Highlands, I like to think I know most of you. And even if we are not familiar, perhaps we have passed shopping carts to one another in Foodland, or waited in line together at Castle Antiques for a coffee, or held the door for each other at the post office.

emily stonehouse

Editorial

It's those tiny moments that made me want to raise my family here.

Haliburton has always been home to me. Victoria Street to Stuart Baker to JDH to Hal High. I skated on Head Lake and walked to the Molou on Friday nights for whatever movie was playing.

During one particularly warm spring day in the 1990s, our road washed out where I grew up. My brother and I saw this as an opportunity to take a refreshing dip in what was excitedly the biggest puddle we had ever seen.

A woman was there, snapping photos, laughing with my mom. The sunshine catching the glint off her old film camera.

The following week, my brother and I were on the front page of the *Haliburton Echo.* Childhood, captured.

The woman was former *Echo* editor Martha Perkins. I know that now. But what I knew then, was just that I wanted to be her. I wanted to capture those memories, to freeze time, to share those moments of joy and sorrow and peace and conflict with the community that has held me my whole life. Through words, through pictures, through connections.

When I was in high school, I did my co-op placement at the *Haliburton Echo.* Finally, I was in this building; with newspaper awards lining the walls, and the energy of a newsroom abuzz.

Martha became my mentor. With everything from answering the phone to writing someone's life story, she guided me. But not in a manner where she held my hand every step of the way. Instead, she acted as my compass in a storm; providing direction and hope in moments when life got blurry. I am happy to say that our friendship continues to this day, and she still plays this role in my life.

Fast forward, and it has been nearly two decades since I first set foot in the *Echo* office. Some may recall my recent stint as the editor of the *Minden Times,* and a reporter for both papers before taking a break to grow my family.

And now, it feels good to be back, this time at the helm for the *Haliburton Echo.* To capture those memories, to freeze time, to share those moments of joy and sorrow and peace and conflict with the community that has held me my whole life. Through words, through pictures, through connections.

I take pride and honour in sharing your stories; in being there for the big things, but sometimes more importantly, the small things. In a rural community, the heart and soul lies in those tiny moments, stolen away for a cold and drizzly day.

And now, I have my own kids. And while they may be dazzled (or bored) by my stories of skating on Head Lake or walking to the Molou on a Friday night, when they take a spontaneous spring dip in an oversized puddle, I will be there with my camera.

And that's a full circle moment.

Lavdeep Jallandhra snapped this photo of an early fall leaf in late September. /photo submitted

Thanksgiving dinner

Tales from the great

lynda shadbolt

Green meadow

"GRATITUDE IS a gracious acknowledgment of all that sustains us, a bow to our blessings, great and small. Buddhist monks begin each day with chants of gratitude for the gifts of food and shelter, of friendship and for the teachings that benefit all." Jack Kornfield, a well known mindfulness teacher, offers many beautiful insights into why a practice of gratitude can lead to feeling joy and ultimately having faith in life and in our ability to carry on in even the most challenging of circumstances.

What I notice about myself is that when I consciously work at being grateful, and it is work and it is a practice, I find that my thoughts are more positive. And when I am in that grateful and positive state of mind, it is easier for me to feel my own goodness and then the goodness of all around me. It is easier to connect with people. To accept others as they are, as I accept myself. None of us are perfect. We all have our quirks and things that make us unique and sometimes a little annoying or irritating. We are all a "work in progress. "

When I can acknowledge my own goodness, and my own imperfection and hold it all with love, that helps me to acknowledge and love the goodness and the imperfection that is in others. When I am judging someone as better than me, or less than me I am creating a state of separation. Of not belonging. And that can lead to loneliness and sadness. It doesn't feel good. I think these are important things to think about as we go into Thanksgiving. We are going to gather with our families and it is not going to be perfect. "Every where we go, there we are." We all take our full selves to these events and we are not perfect and no one is. When we think about these ideas and bring them to the forefront of our attention, then we can choose how we want to respond. I can only speak for myself and share my stories. When I get ready to gather with family or friends, I can stop and create an intention. Perhaps it is an intention to catch myself when I notice thoughts that are causing me to feel separate and disconnected. As soon as I find myself judging someone, creating a bad "other" I can stop myself and offer the thoughts some compassion and kindness. I can choose to acknowledge something I am grateful for. And let that gratitude lead the way. When we take gratitude to the gathering, to the table, to the food and to family and friends it is going to be felt by everyone. And those are good feelings running through any dinner party. We are all quirky. We are all evolving. And we all have the capacity to bring gratitude, joy and love to the dinner table. Again and again and again.

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points of view

Lion heart

steve galea

Loon Tales

I RECENTLY READ a story about a Great Pyrenees dog in Georgia that, while protecting a herd of sheep, attacked and killed 8 coyotes out of a pack of 11. The story, which was reported by reputable news outlets, also noted that this dog then went missing for a few days to hunt down and kill the other three.

A lot of people would not understand what it is like to own a dog with that much resolve, violent tendencies, and bravery.

But I get it entirely. I own an English springer spaniel named Rosie.

The other day I watched with wonder as she held her ground against a gang (two) of teacup poodles she met in the park. To be clear, when I say held her ground, I mean hugged it.

Sure, to anyone watching, including the owners of those presumably jail-hardened, tiny teacup poodles, it appeared as if Rosie was being totally submissive. But, trust me, she was just getting ready to pounce.

All it would have taken was one word from me, and those foul-mouthed poodles would have stopped snickering.

The same goes for when Rosie rolled over to show them her belly. A lot of people would take that as a sure sign that Rosie was capitulating entirely to those little menaces to society – as well as deliberately casting doubt on my assertions that she is a very good hunting dog. But those people don't know field bred English Springer spaniels.

Yes, outwardly it looked like Rosie was in the process of handing over her lunch money. But what she was really doing, as I futilely explained, was ordering those poodles to give her one of her favourite things, a belly rub – or else.

Basically, she had moved the Doomsday clock one minute closer to midnight.

It turned out those teacup poodles can't tell time. Or they were doing an admirable job of hiding their fear and chose the "or else" option. Who can blame them? I mean would you rub the belly of a lion?

Again, neither those thuggish, street tough dogs nor their owner know how lucky they are that I was there to hold Rosie back and prevent all that unnecessary trauma and bloodshed. Otherwise, there would have been poodle hair, ribbons, and canine hair product, flying everywhere.

I make no apologies though. I have trained Rosie to be a bird dog – and, so long as the birds are not sassy, she is a good one at that.

But when it comes to other dogs, I have always encouraged her to lull them into a false sense of security, so that they walk away feeling dominant. But only because it is better than me paying millions of dollars in veterinary bills and therapy for those other dogs.

This might seem odd. But if you could have seen the damage Rosie did to one of our couch pillows when she was a pup, you'd whistle a different tune. Heck, she almost punctured it.

That's when I knew I was raising a killing machine.

I just wish it were not so blatantly obvious when I walk her in the park. But now Rosie is like one of those legendary gunslingers in the Old West that every fast and young upstart wants to challenge.

Luckily, I am there to ensure that Rosie does not beat them senseless with violent tail wagging. But, if those teacup poodles do not return Rosie's lunch money, I can't guarantee I'll be able to hold her back.

pic *of the* past

Photo submitted by Robert Gray. St. Peter's Church - Maple Lake

letters to the editor

Mother Earth in danger

To the Editor,

If you were at the Farmers' Market in Haliburton early on the last rainy Tuesday in August, you may have heard me swear loudly when I grabbed my lever espresso machine and received an unexpected electrical shock: the wet conditions short circuited my system, somewhere between the machine and the panel I plugged into fifty feet away. Replacing the cable did not help; I belted out a second profanity as I received another not insignificant shock. As is usual in Haliburton, skilled help was nearby, and my expert friend determined there would be no lattes that day.

The shock I received was nothing compared to the shock the earth receives every second of every day as we pollute the air, pave paradise, and ignore the science: change or die.

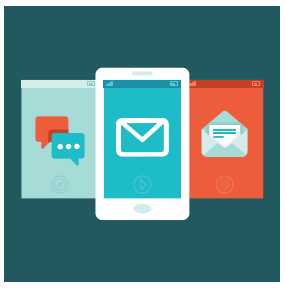
I grieve and continue to grieve the losses suffered by Mother Earth as we fail to realize the urgency of what is required of us. It is only after grieving, that serious personal and collective change can happen, the actions required are that deep and all-encompassing.

That is why my wife and I bought an electric car. Yes, it has a plug that now powers my market coffee booth! Come on rain, hit me with your best shot!

A paradox: the most important thing we can do in our life is to reduce our carbon footprint, as everyone's life is at stake; what you do about the climate, alone, is irrelevant. Usually at the market I go on (loudly) about the health, taste, and community benefits of fresh coffee; recently a young lad slipped me a little note he made after hearing it. No shock here: if I could rule the world, first I would outlaw fossil fuels, and then stale coffee. Next? Let's talk, over a cuppa.

Oliver Zielke
Haliburton

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com

Ready to roll
The annual ColourFest was held on Sept. 28 in Head Lake Park, where attendees could participate in games, crafts, activities, and the fan favourite pumpkin roll for prizes provided by local businesses and organizations. /TIM YANO Staff photographer

HHHS receives accreditation

THOMAS SMITH

Staff Reporter

"Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) has been part of the Accreditation program since 2003," said Lauren Ernst, communications lead for HHHS. "The onsite survey portion of the evaluation occurs every four (4) years."

According to Accreditation Canada, Accreditation is "A self-assessment and external peer assessment process used by healthcare organizations to accurately assess their level of performance in relation to established standards and to implement ways to continuously improve."

"Patients were chosen by the Accreditors/evaluators at random. Accreditors spoke to and interviewed patients in the Emergency Department, Acute Care, and Long-Term Care residents," said Ernst.

"Accreditation helps ensure health organizations remain current and keep quality, safety, and efficiency top of mind," says Ernst. "Through this process, HHHS will continue to evolve and improve in the name of patient care and safety."

"Successfully completing the Accreditation process and being Accredited, showcases HHHS' dedication to improvement," said Ernst. "Not only does Accreditation demonstrate HHHS' commitment to continuous growth, but to quality, and always striving for a higher standard of care. This could look like updating policies, process, or technology, for example. Accreditation with Commendation is the highest level of Accreditation HHHS has received in its history, thanks to our spectacular team.

The Accreditation with Commendation covers all aspects of the HHHS, including their long term care facilities, programming and the Haliburton hospital.

Ernst cannot say how Accreditation with Commendation will affect the funding that HHHS receives.

"We will certainly cross that bridge when we get to it," she said. "Some hospital and Long-Term Care funding is tied to being accredited."

Ernst shared that this Accreditation will bring about some changes to the HHHS including "leveraging technology, focusing on continued safety and best practices, engaging patients, residents, and clients in our processes."

"Working with partners to expand health care in Haliburton county," said Ernst. "This formal process has not only highlighted the things HHHS is doing well but has slowed us to see where we can continuously improve to bring more health and wellbeing to our community."

Speakers Series welcomes Dr. DaCosta

The monthly "Telling our Stories" Speakers Series, now in its 10th season, is pleased to welcome Dr. Ralph S. DaCosta to our Wednesday, Oct. 9 presentation. Dr. DaCosta is a biomedical physicist. He trained at the University of Toronto and has over 30 years' experience in the field of breast cancer research and is on the cutting-edge of patient care. Dr. DaCosta is a Senior Scientist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Center where he leads a program with a focus on advancing the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer and other diseases. The title of his talk is "From Eureka to Life-Saving, The Journey from Breakthrough to Global Impact in Wound Care and Cancer Surgery with Optical Imaging".

Dr. DaCosta will take the audience on a journey from the "eureka moment" of invention through the intricate process of research and development, culminating in the establishment and funding of a company dedicated to commercializing this innovation in wound care and cancer surgery applications.

The Speakers Series, a member of the Haliburton County Community Cooperative, takes place on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association Fish Hatchery, 6712 Gelert Road. Admission is $15 per person payable at the door or on line at www.tellingourstories.company.site.

As seating is limited, pre-registration is highly recommended. To obtain tickets, contact Barrie Martin at 705-457-7557 or by email at barrieinthehighlands@gmail.com.

Submitted

Hal High Monthly

Hal High Monthly is written by the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School leadership class featuring monthy school news.

Students from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School attend Interact Day. /Submitted

Hal High has had a great kick off to the year! There have been numerous sports and events that students have been able to participate in along with different spirit days to start off the school year. It has been an exciting start with Freaky Friday on Friday the 13th where students dressed like teachers and teachers dressed like students. Individual grades had the chance to show off their school spirit as well with coloured shirt days from Sept. 17 to 20. The month ended with Grade 9 Day on the 20th, Silly Sock day on the 27th, and Orange Shirt Day on the 30th.

There have been lots of sports to join for the students as well! Girls have been able to take part in joining varsity rugby, volleyball, and basketball while the boys have started with volleyball and soccer. All students have the opportunity to join the cross country and golf team as well! The teams are off to a great start.

On Friday, Sept. 20th, the Leadership class hosted Grade 9 Day. This was an exciting opportunity for new students to get to know one another as they participated in team building exercises. These students are new to the high school and it is a great start to welcoming them to Hal High! They took a group photo then headed into different groups so that they got the experience of meeting new people. The activities offered include tug of war, cornhole, collaborative art, octopus, finger painting, and Minute To Win It games. Later in the day there was food and drinks provided.

Within this month there were multiple events and clubs for students to join. The clubs that have just started up again include Interact, which is held in room five every Tuesday at lunch, Drama Club, which is held after school on Tuesdays, and Film Club, which is held in room four at lunch on Thursdays. There will be more clubs to join as the school year progresses and everyone is welcome!

On Monday, Sept. 30th, HHSS honoured Orange Shirt Day. Staff and students wore orange to remember the atrocities committed at the Residential Schools. The school hosted Knowledge Keepers Larry O'Conner and Britney Taylor, who led workshops and circles to teach students from HHSS and JDH about the importance of the day. Students also participated in a StoryWalk, reading the book, *Every Child Matters* by Phyllis Webstad. It was a day of learning for everyone.

Overall, it has been a wonderful start to the school year as students began to partake in a variety of sports and clubs. In this first month of the school year there has been a large amount of participation by the students, staff, clubs, and sport teams in the events organized by the leadership class. We hope each and every one of the Hal High students and staff are excited and looking forward to the new upcoming events and spirit days.

Written by: William Burke (Grade 13) and Kaitlyn VanderWier (Grade 12)

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Home Alone workshop empowers kids to stay safe

THOMAS SMITH

Staff Reporter

On Monday, Oct. 28, Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth, and Parents will be offering a Home Alone Program. This workshop, designed for children aged 10 and older will provide youth with the confidence and skills in spending time home alone. "We started using this program when we learned about it from the Canada Safety Council," said Kaila Sisson, family support worker from the Point in Time. "The Home Alone Program is designed to provide children 10 years of age and older with the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible when home alone for short periods of time. It will help them understand how to prevent problems, handle real-life situations, and keep them safe and constructively occupied."

There are no set costs for the program.

"Point in Time does not charge a fee for this program, however we do offer food and refreshments and ask for a donation of $5, if possible, to offset the costs of the food and refreshments," said Sisson.

"The Home Alone Program is a valuable resource for parents and youth, designed to equip children aged 10 and older with the skills needed to stay home alone safely for short periods," said Sisson. "Recognizing that readiness differs among children aged 10 and older, the program provides guidelines to assist families in determining when a child is ready for this responsibility."

"Participants will learn how to establish a routine, take responsibility for their house key, interact safely with others, practice telephone safety, and prepare for emergencies. Additionally, they will gain basic first aid knowledge and internet safety skills, fostering confidence and independence."

Point in Time is a child, youth, and family oriented organization. They are dedicated to empowering the residents of Haliburton County, said Sisson.

"We offer a variety of support and services aimed at helping individuals and families reach their full potential and enhance their well-being."

"At Point in Time we believe that families in Haliburton County should have access to a full range of high-quality services, delivered effectively and efficiently, to promote the well being of children, youth, and families."

This workshop will be offered at the PINT Satellite Office on Highland Street in Haliburton on Oct. 28 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with a mandatory parent component beginning at 5:40 p.m. prior to the completion of the workshop.

To register, please contact Kaila Sisson through email at kailas@pointintime.ca or over the phone by calling 705-457-5345 ext. 108.

Walking on water

Spencer Morris rips across the pond at Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre on Sept. 28 as a part of the annual Watercross Racing event. /TAMMY NASH special to the *Echo*

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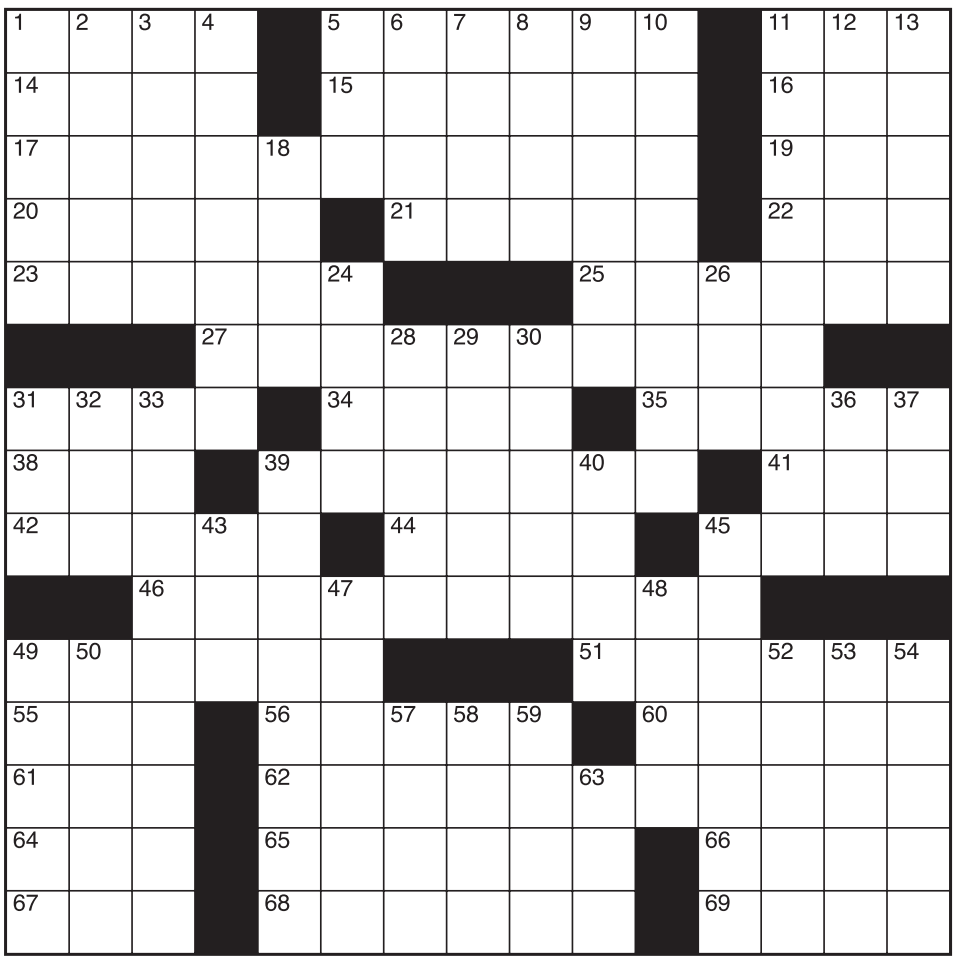
A new life for old clothes

Haliburton's first official Clothing Swap was held at the Haliburton School of Art + Design on Sept. 28 in the Great Hall. The event, put on in collaboration between HSA+D and Dysart et al, was designed to keep textile waste out of landfills, and offer a second life to older clothes. On top of the piles of gently used clothes that folks could pick up free of charge, there was also a mending station for rips and tears, and a booth set up by SIRCH's repair cafe. John Watson, the environmental manager for Dysart hopes that this is the first event of many to offer sustainable solutions to waste in the community. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff, photos by TIM YANO Staff photographer



CLUES ACROSS
1. Separate with an instrument
5. State clearly
11. One-time MLB speedster Gordon
14. Broad in scope
15. Lacking social polish
16. Amount of time
17. Frame
19. Automobile
20. Caps
21. High school dances
22. Utilize
23. Checked
25. One-sided
27. Having an extreme greed for wealth
31. Potted plants
34. We all have one
35. Lake north of the Kalahari
38. Unidentified flying object
39. Aging persons
41. Small amount
42. Mother of Perseus
44. Ornamental waist box
45. Officials
46. Uncertain
49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
51. Extensive, treeless plains
55. Your consciousness of your own identity
56. Consumer advocate Ralph
60. Notable Spanish sports club
61. Body part
62. One's responsiveness
64. Woman (French)
65. Ready and willing to be taught
66. Muslim ruler title
67. Unhappy
68. Gradually disappeared
69. Able to think clearly

CLUES DOWN
1. Brushed
2. Water sprite
3. Ones to look up to
4. Monetary units
5. We all have one
6. Marine invertebrate
7. One who institutes a legal proceeding
8. Outer
9. Parallelograms
10. Uncomfortable feelings
11. Cross to form an X
12. Remove
13. Some pages are dog-__
18. Capital of Ukraine
24. A citizen of Denmark
26. Eighth month (abbr.)
28. Hindu queens
29. Acids structurally related to amino acids
30. Rider of Rohan in Tolkien
31. Wet dirt
32. Russian city
33. Observed
36. Irate
37. Travelers need them
39. Musical composition
40. Auction
43. Form of "to be"
45. Women
47. Inspire with love
48. Think Japanese ankle sock
49. Appears
50. Old World lizard
52. The lead dancer: __ ballerina
53. Protein involved in motion
54. Rosalind Franklin biographer
57. Popular 1920s style art __
58. __ Blyton, children's author
59. Abnormal breathing
63. A place to rest

Answers on page 15

Ontario's Highlands featured in list of 100 Travel Innovations

World Tourism Day (September 27, 2024) marks the launch of 100 Travel Innovations , a collection of stories from 100 places around the world about the programs and activities happening right now to improve our lives – environmentally, economically and socially.

As a sponsor of 100 Travel Innovations, the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO) supports the drive to ensure travel makes the world a better place. OHTO's spotlight for the event is found under the category of Responsible Tourism, and features Haliburton Bike Share, a Haliburton Rotary Club project investment to purchase six, seven-speed bicycles, docking rack, and accessories for Haliburton visitors to borrow at no cost.

We know we need to change how we live our lives – in the day to day and on special occasions. Some of our most memorable occasions happen as we travel and experience new places. The industry that makes tourism possible is uniquely positioned to connect people and new perspectives, and it bears a profound responsibility to innovate and lead by example.

OHTO's Wander Sustainably approach to tourism focuses on supporting and growing the community and culture, while protecting the environment and its ecosystems. Wander Sustainably encourages visitors to consider travel planning from a new perspective and consciously seek out experience providers who care about how they impact their community and environment.

This launch includes the first 100 innovations addressing biodiversity, climate resilience, cultural preservation, community prosperity, equality, modernization, responsible tourism and job creation. The collection will grow with more ideas to inform and inspire everyone who travels or wants to make meaningful changes at home.

"We are honoured to be one of the first 100 destinations to contribute to this global initiative to raise awareness of not only the important role tourism plays in building a sustainable future, but also that change doesn't have to be a big scary undertaking. The small steps we take in our communities collectively make a profound difference," said Nicole Whiting, Executive Director, OHTO.

Destination Think is proud to produce 100 Travel Innovations with support from Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization and all other sponsors. This collection was carefully evaluated and selected by Destination Think's editorial team in collaboration with Todd Montgomery, professor at Oregon State University and director of the Sustainable Tourism Lab.

To learn more about innovations happening at OHTO, go to: www.ohto.ca.

About OHTO

Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO) is a not-for-profit organization mandated and funded by the province of Ontario to support tourism within the counties of Haliburton, Lanark, and Renfrew and portions of Frontenac, Hastings, and Lennox and Addington. Find out more at www.ohto.ca.

Repair Cafe returns with a special edition

Toss it away, no way! Did you hear, SIRCH Community Services is hosting our monthly Repair Café on Sunday Oct. 6 with another special edition!

Join us and welcome the Haliburton County Public Library. Learn about Frankentoys, mixing and matching of different toys, learn hands-on robotics, create with 3D Doodlers and more!

Don't forget: items accepted at our Repair Cafe include small appliances, ceramics, toys, furniture, jewelry, textiles, computers, wooden furniture, bicycles and more.

This next Repair Café will take place the Sunday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m., until 2 p.m., at the SIRCH Bistro & Bakery, located at 49 Maple Ave. in Haliburton. Don't forget to put it on your calendar!

We are also looking for fixers and volunteers of all kinds! If you enjoy repairing things and helping others learn how, we invite you to join us as a volunteer fixer at the Repair Café.

If you're looking for more information, call SIRCH at 705-457-1742 or visit www.sirch.on.ca.

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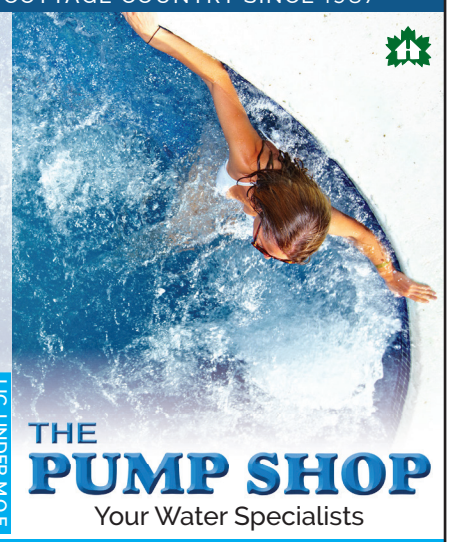

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Pickleball pride

Pickleball is quickly becoming a sport of intierest amongst players of all ages across the county, with options to play indoors in Minden or outdoors in Haliburton. There is a pickleball tournament between five districts that will be held in Minden on Oct. 15 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. */TIM YANO Staff photographer*

WINTER GUIDE
IS COMING SOON!

To see your local free event listed in our Winter Guide Magazine, email
HaliburtonWinterGuide@gmail.com

The guide will include events that take place in December 2024, and January through April 2025.

Listing Deadline is October 11, 2024

THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY | County Life | The Times MINDEN ONTARIO

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Game

Niagara Falls Canucks VS Haliburton County Huskies

Saturday, Oct. 5 - 4 p.m.

Upcoming Home Games

Trenton Golden Hawks — Saturday, Oct. 12, 4 p.m.

Buffalo Jr. Sabres — Saturday, Oct. 19, 4 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

For more information please visit our website

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

E	N	A	S	■	D	E	D	O	R	E	■	D	A	S
R	I	M	E	■	E	L	I	C	O	D	■	E	M	M
Y	T	I	L	I	B	A	N	E	M	A	■	R	A	E
A	C	R	A	B	■	R	E	D	A	N	■	O	G	E
S	A	P	M	A	P	■	■	■	N	E	E	T	A	S
■	■	■	E	T	U	L	O	S	E	R	R	I	■	■
S	D	E	F	■	O	R	N	I	■	E	A	N	A	D
D	A	T	■	S	R	O	I	N	E	S	■	O	F	U
I	M	A	G	N	■	E	M	A	N	■	S	N	U	M
■	■	S	U	O	I	C	I	R	A	V	A	■	■	■
D	E	S	A	I	B	■	■	■	D	E	T	S	E	T
E	S	U	■	S	M	O	R	P	■	I	E	L	I	P
R	A	C	■	N	O	T	E	L	E	K	S	O	X	E
A	R	E	■	E	H	C	U	A	G	■	E	D	I	W
E	E	D	■	T	R	E	S	S	A	■	P	I	N	S

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Fuel for Warmth Inc. — Because no one should go cold
Minden Animal Hospital

Fuel for Warmth Dinner Raffle
Win a beautiful meal made by Abbey Gardens, with desserts & wine for your family this Thanksgiving!

Winner to be announced Friday October 4 th at 9am

Get your raffle ticket for $20 Cash Only

Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
Minden Animal Hospital, 4 Booth St. or Braun Custom Builds office, 37 Mallard Rd in Haliburton

All proceeds are headed to Fuel for Warmth, to help residents in our community stay warm all winter long!

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

MUNICIPAL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

The Municipality of Dysart et al is actively inviting applications for Volunteer Firefighters to join our team.

This volunteer position is highly demanding of your time as well as both physically and mentally challenging.
The ideal candidates will live or work within proximity of the fire hall, be committed to community safety and will have a desire to work closely with others.

A detailed job description is available at www.dysartetal.ca/careers for your review.

Interested persons can apply on the Municipal website at www.dysartetal.ca/en/living-in-our-community/volunteer-fire-department or submit a resume to Fire Chief Dan Chumbley at dchumbley@dysartetal.ca no later than 4:00pm Sunday, October 6, 2024

Alternatively, your submission may be mailed to P.O. Box 389, Haliburton ON K0M 1S0 Attn: Fire Chief Dan Chumbley or HR Manager, Sonja Marx

We thank all those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.

650 OBITUARIES

Cindy Lyn Boughner

Aged 67, passed away on September 19, 2024, in Tofield, Alberta, after a courageous ten-year battle with cancer.

Born on September 2, 1957, Cindy's life was marked by her resilience and enduring spirit. Cindy was deeply loved and will be profoundly missed by her family. She is survived by her husband, Roy; her children, Dustin, Kyle and his wife Brita; her grandchildren, Nash and Shaye; her sisters, Julie and Pat along with Pat's husband Rob; and her mother-in-law, Marilyn. Cindy was preceded in death by her parents, Neil and Betty Howe, and her father-in-law, Roy. A celebration of Cindy's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Cindy's memory to the Cancer Society, supporting the fight against the disease that Cindy faced so bravely.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Quarry's Fate
The MNR has passed on concerns about Bark Lake quarry to applicant to address

Runners' Glory
School board's Terry Fox Runs and cross-country meet get students on the trails

Walk This Way
Meet for coffee at the docks at eight on Wednesday morning and walk to school

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2006 VOL. 123 NO. 38 $1.25 INCL. GST

Hunter Lumber vows to rebuild after fire

GREG HOEKSTRA
Staff Reporter

Somewhere around 7 a.m. on Wednesday, Jeff Hunter arrived for work at his family's sawmill – M.W. Hunter Lumber in Gooderham – only to discover that it wasn't going to be just another day.

As he pulled within 100 metres of the main building, Hunter's eyes suddenly took notice of flashing lights, fire trucks, and workers hustling about in high-visibility vests. At that moment he quickly realized that, while he and his family were sleeping through the night, their lumber business, and the single largest employer in town, was literally going up in smoke.

"It was quite a shock. I mean, you drive to work every morning, and then all of the sudden there are fire trucks and people running all over the yard… It just takes the breath away from you, and you really don't know what to expect," he says.

Fire crews were first called on scene shortly before 5 a.m., so by the time Hunter arrived the worst had already been dealt with by responding fire fighters, some of whom hold day jobs at the same place they were extinguishing. The sight of their workplace gutted by flames was enough to bring some of the mill's employees to tears, which is a strong testament to the kind of workplace it was, and will be again one day, Hunter says.

See **Fire** *page 18*

Stéphane Dion leads votes in local riding

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Stéphane Dion may have come a distant third in the hearts of most Ontario Liberals in the weekend's leadership vote, but in this riding he topped the polls as the best person to lead the Liberals into the next election.

In a complicated voting process, members of the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes and Brock Liberal riding association decided to send six Dion delegates to the leadership convention in Montreal this December.

Four other riding delegates will be voting for national frontrunner Michael Ignatieff, two will cast their votes for Gerard Kennedy and two are backing Bob Rae.

The breakdown is based on whom local riding members voted for to be their delegate.

The riding also gets two ex-officio delegates who haven't formally announced whom they're backing. One of them is Greg Walling, the riding's Liberal candidate in the last election and the likely candidate in the next one.

"For an Ontario riding that has been so far to the right it would surprise people that Stéphane Dion did so well," Walling said Monday. "I think

See **Commitment** *page 3*

CASEY LESSARD/Echo

Focus on art

Pamela Nelson of Toronto checks out Susan Watson Ellis' jewellery while Todd Jeffrey Ellis does some metal work. "The chain mail caught my eye," Nelson said. "It's weird. It's heavy. I'm too impatient (to make it). I'd give up after three rows and give up." More coverage of the Studio Tour is on pages 22 and 23.

Highlands East election off to hot start

GREG HOEKSTRA
Staff Reporter

If last Saturday's Highland East candidates' meeting was any indication of things to come, the lead-up to the November election could be chock full of heated debates, threatening innuendos, and lofty promises for change in all levels of the municipality.

Less than 24 hours after the list of nominees was finalized, residents of Highlands East were given their first chance to lob questions at candidates running in the November municipal election. Reeve candidate Dave Burton sat alongside Ward 4 candidates Gary Stoughton and Janis Cole at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce in the first of five candidates meetings to be held throughout the municipality.

Dozens of local residents were on hand with questions and concerns about everything from taxes, government accountability, and the municipality's five-year action plan.

In his opening remarks, Burton, a former councillor in Oro-Medonte township, jumped straight to his reasons for running for the top job in Highlands East. In particular, he cited a growing sense of disillusionment in municipal politics as his primary source of motivation.

"Our family has enjoyed the Highlands East area for four generations, and since moving here about 10 years ago and semi-retiring, I have seen an increasing number of people with issues who don't feel they've been heard or represented by their elected municipal

See **Candidates** *page 24*

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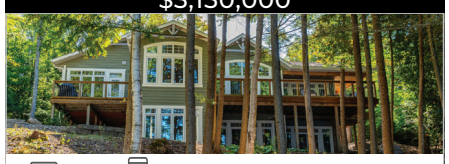
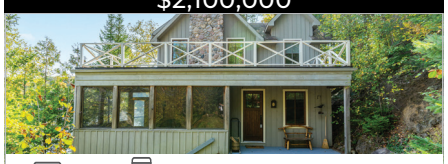


5 X BED | 4 X BATH | MLS# 40645921

SOYERS LAKE
$2,100,000

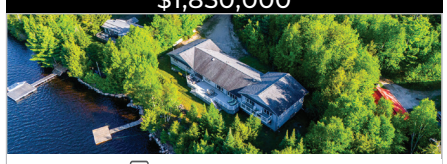


3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# 40624213

KENNISIS LAKE
$2,099,000

5 X BED | 4X BATH | MLS# 40542149

LITTLE REDSTONE LAKE
$1,850,000

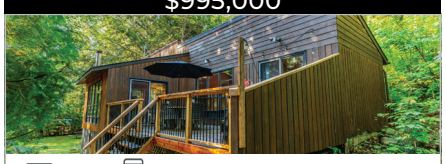


5 X BED | 4X BATH | MLS# 40598632

HALIBURTON LAKE
$1,250,000

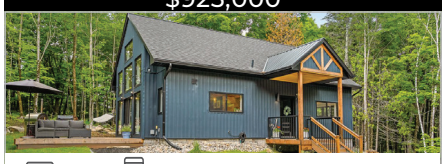
4 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# 40645925

LITTLE REDSTONE LAKE
$995,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# 40645664

EAGLE LAKE
$925,000



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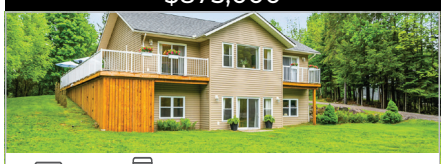
HALIBURTON-BY-THE-LAKE
$875,000



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HALIBURTON LAKE
$799,000

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# 40645912

GULL RIVER
$759,900

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KENNISIS LAKE
$750,000

4 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# 40635394

ALLEN LAKE - HARCOURT PARK
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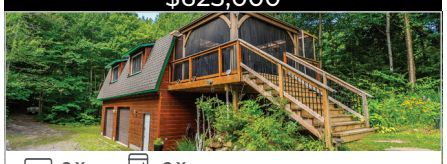

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BURNT RIVER
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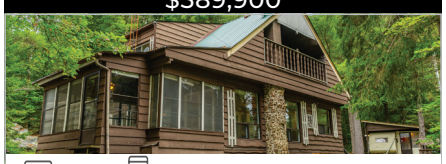
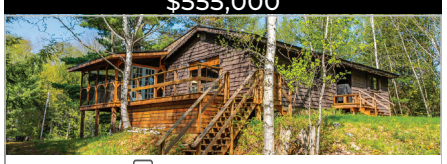


2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# 40642960

FRED JONES ROAD
$555,000



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BLACK RIVER/DRAG LAKE
$549,000

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